

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to catalytically bleaching substrates, especially laundry fabrics, with atmospheric oxygen or air.

A method of bleaching a substrate is provided that comprises

5 applying to the substrate, in an aqueous medium, a specified

ligand from a selected class which forms a complex with a

transition metal, the complex catalysing bleaching of the

substrate by atmospheric oxygen. Also provided is an

aqueous bleaching composition substantially devoid of

10 peroxygen bleach or a peroxy-based or -generating bleach

system.

1001394-488000